

CALIFORNIA FOOD FOR CALIFORNIA KIDS®
SCHOOL FOOD INNOVATOR SERIES

Celebrating Leadership and Innovation

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California Food for California Kids



Agenda

- Welcome and Acknowledgements
- Presentation of Leadership and Innovation Awards
- Panel Discussion
- Group Q+A
- Resources and Reminders
- Closing and Thank You



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California Food for California Kids is an initiative of the Center for Ecoliteracy



Network at a Glance

49%

network districts integrate food
and agriculture curriculum



67%

network districts promote local
food in schools



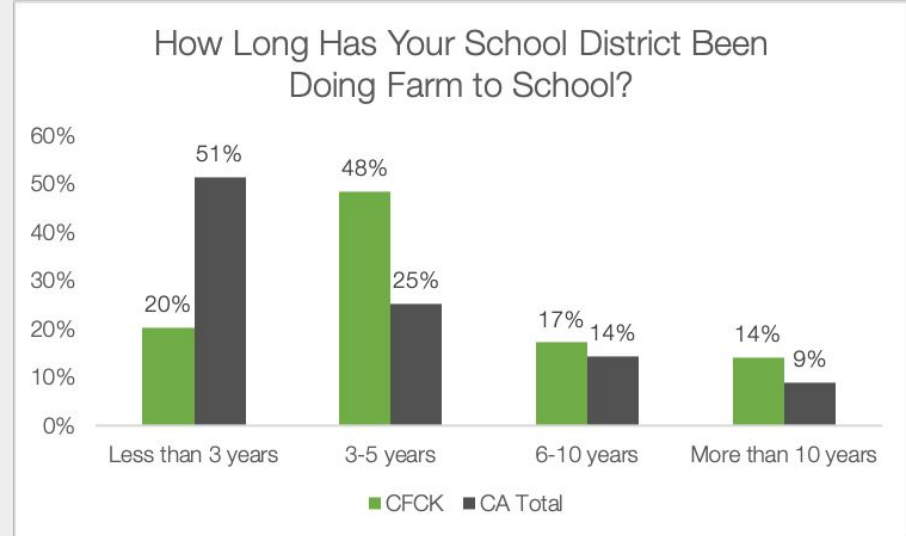
65%

network districts encourage
students to eat more local foods



Farm to School

- 48% have implemented Farm to School for 3-5 years
- Leading in Farm to School learning opportunities for students are nutrition education posters, Harvest of the Month or California Thursdays, classroom lessons, and culinary programs



Resilience in Action

School food heroes have provided farm to school activities for more than **730,000** students at over **1,200** sites



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2021 Leadership and Innovation Award Winners



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San Luis Coastal Unified School District

*2021 Leadership Award for Cultivating an
Innovative Farm to School Culture*

Erin Primer
Food and Nutrition Services Director
5,300 meals served daily

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Fresh and
Locally-Sourced
Menu Items



San Luis
Coastal USD
Local Farm Map



Investing in People through Professional Development



Investing in People through Professional Development



Palm Springs Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for School Food
Policy Advocacy*

Stephanie Bruce, MBA
Director, Nutrition Services
30,000 meals served daily

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USDA Undersecretary Kevin
Concannon's visit to Palm
Springs USD



Stephanie Bruce and Jack O'Connell, former State Superintendent of Instruction



Stephanie Bruce with Frank Harris and Gene White at the Legislative Action Conference in D.C.



Stephanie Bruce with Congressman Ruiz

Mt. Diablo Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for Garden
Education and School Food Collaboration*

Dominic Machi
Director of Food and Nutrition Services
and Warehouse

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Mt. Diablo Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for Garden
Education and School Food Collaboration*

Jennifer Sachs
Chief of Educational Services

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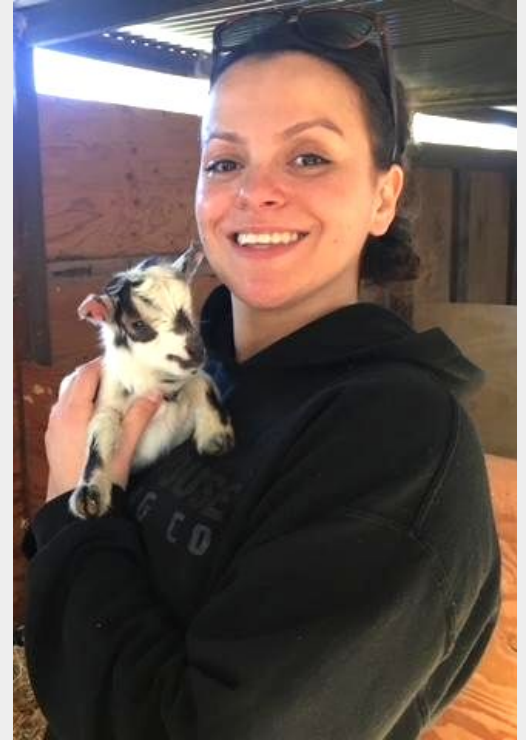


Western Placer Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for Community
Collaboration in Feeding Children and
Families*

Christina Lawson, SNS
Food Service Director

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West Contra Costa Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for All Organic
Procurement and Food Distribution*

Barbara Jellison
Director of Food Services

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Pajaro Valley Unified School District

*2021 Innovation Award for Nutrition
Education and Enrichment for Virtual Learners*

Linda Liu, RD
Director of Food and Nutrition Services

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Panel Discussion

Resources and Reminders

PLANT-FORWARD

Culinary Workshops for School Nutrition Staff

1:00 - 2:30 pm PDT

September 28, 2021

September 29, 2021

September 30, 2021

*The same workshop will be offered
across three days.*



Resources and Reminders

- [CEP selection deadline is next Thursday, September 30](#)
- [New P-EBT benefits website for California](#)
- [Waiver for Fiscal Action Flexibility for Meal Pattern Violations Related to COVID-19 Supply Chain Disruptions 2021-2022 SY](#)

CALIFORNIA'S 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR:
A FRESH LOOK AT
COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY

The **Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)** allows high-poverty schools to offer breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students while eliminating the traditional meal application process. Currently, the Seamless Summer Waiver is available to all schools for the 2021-22 school year. In addition, the higher poverty rates caused by the COVID-19 pandemic mean that the 2021-22 school year is an optimal time to elect CEP and establish a higher baseline for LCFF funding over the next four years. CEP also helps ensure that Pandemic EBT opportunities are available for all students.

▶▶▶ **There is still time to elect CEP for this school year, ahead of the September 30, 2021 deadline.**

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF SCHOOLS ELECTING CEP?

- ▶ **It reduces administrative burden** — eliminating the school meal application means less paperwork for nutrition services.
- ▶ **It prepares your district for School Meals for All** — create a seamless transition for families and lock in a higher baseline for LCFF funding based on current elevated CalFresh enrollments.
- ▶ **It facilitates implementation of innovative breakfast models** — so that it's easier to implement breakfast in the classroom and "grab and go" service models.

CEP & P-EBT

Electing CEP helps reduce administration of Pandemic EBT while maximizing benefits for children.

- All students enrolled in CEP Schools are automatically eligible for P-EBT benefits.
- With this school year being full of uncertainty, there is a chance that P-EBT benefits will be necessary at some point. If schools are functioning under CEP, the process of determining eligibility is much more efficient.
- CEP schools will be able to submit student information for Summer P-EBT benefits more easily in Summer of 2022.

Thank you!